

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Caving Competency Checklist

Instructor (Caving) Qualifications	Volt Initials & Date	Trip Leader Initials & Date	CORE Initials & Date
Served as apprentice on a Venture trip, including participation in staff planning meeting, post-trip meeting, and issue and de-issue of gear			
Is familiar with all pre-trip paperwork			
Certified in Basic First Aid and CPR. WFA/WAFA/WFR Recommended			
Completed Venture van tests and is an authorized driver (exceptions may be made for those unable to drive. Please explain below)			
Understands basic search & rescue, and emergency procedures and can execute an evacuation plan			
Thorough knowledge of the contents of the first aid kit and the hypo kits			
Understands and effectively communicates LNT principles as they apply to caving			
Knowledge of extra equipment that should be carried by instructors into the cave; extra clothing, extra food, heat tent gear.			
Able to observe physical and emotional condition of participants and respond appropriately			
Able to navigate the cave from the lead position or to sweep the group			
Able to assist with setting up hand-lines and helping with minor cave evacuation			
Advises participants on proper cave dress and takes precautions to avoid hypothermia			
Able to treat participants in a hypothermia situation (candle, trash bag method)			
Uses a system for keeping track of participants (counting off or buddy system)			
Able to do field maintenance on headlamps inside a cave			
Able to tie, dress and explain usage: _____ Bowline _____ Alpine Butterfly			
Knowledge of caving terminology (cave formations - refer to caving portion of the manual)			
Demonstrated ability to teach safe caving travel i.e. three points of contact			
Coaches participants on effectively navigating high risk parts of cave and communicates need for spotting where appropriate			
Notes / Observations:			
Qualified as <i>Caving Instructor</i>			
Date:			

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Caving Competency Checklist

Trip Leader (Caving) Qualifications	Volt Initials & Date	Trip Leader Initials & Date	CORE Initials & Date
Possesses a current WFA, WAFA, or WFR certification from approved institution (WMI, WMA, SOLO, American Red Cross)			
Served as acting trip leader for a caving trip			
Has led pre-activity safety briefing			
Thorough knowledge of all trip paperwork			
Has taken Venture Cave Trip Leader / Rescue Training			
Able to adjust activities and/or route as needed in response to group's ability			
Understands the nuances of caving etiquette and the access demands of individual caves			
Able to recognize significant hazards in individual caves and caving in general, and avoids them. Applies this knowledge to approaches, entrances, exits and use of hand lines.			
Able to teach cave ecology, especially related to cave geology, biology, human impact and waste management.			
Able to assess participant state of mind related to fatigue, claustrophobia, and enjoyment.			
Able to formulate search and rescue and evacuation plans for various emergency situations			
Able to manage a minor cave evacuation. Must be able to engage external emergency response team in the event of a major cave accident.			
Organizes leadership with lead and sweep staff, dividing the group (if appropriate), keeping the group together, and manages time in the cave.			
Has a working knowledge of the cave system being used, including places where spotting is needed, places where extra caution is needed, places where hand lines are necessary, and places that should be avoided all together.			
Is able to monitor the group without guiding them through the cave (exploration is part of the experience)			
Is able to reinsert a bat if knocked off the wall			
Capable of making a hypo wrap in the event of serious hypothermia			
Able to instruct staff and participants to effectively carry and maneuver a rescue litter			
Notes / Observations:			
Qualified as Caving Trip Leader			
Date:			